## Message Text

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**ACTION ARA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AF-08

EUR-12 IO-13 SAM-01 /101 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2599

**UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 2038** 

USIAC

FOR IOP/M

EO 11652 N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT

THE FOLLOWING APPEARED IN A REGULAR COLUMN/EDITORIAL ENTITLED "POINTS OF VIEW: LATIN AMERICA" IN THE JULY 28 EDITION OF THE ECONOMICALLY ORIENTED AND INDEPENDENT DAILY PANORAMA: "THE VISIT TO CUBA OF ANGOLAN PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO ATTRACTED ATTENTION LAST WEEKEND. HE MET WITH PREMIER FIDEL CASTRO. IT IS THE FIRST TRIP ABROAD FOR PRESIDENT NETO AND OBSERVERS ARE WONDERING ABOUT THE MOTIVES AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DEPARTURE OF THE ANGOLAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE. WHY DID HE CHOSE TO GO TO HAVANA RATHER THAN MOSCOW? AGOSTINHO NETO HAS NOT HEEDED WASHINGTON'S WARNING THAT IN ORDER TO HAVE HIS REGIME RECOGNIZED, CUBAN TROOPS STATIONED IN ANGOLA WOULD HAVE TO BE WITHDRAWN. AND NOW AN ACCORD WAS JUST CONCLUDED FOR CONTINUED OR EVEN INCREASED CUBAN-ANGOLAN COOPERATION. THE AGREEMENT IN QUESTION UNDERSCORES THE CONTRIBUTION THAT CUBAN SPECIALISTS CAN GIVE TO THE ANGOLANS IN THE TECHNICAL, COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS, BUT ONLY VAGUELY MENTIONS MILITARY AID. ONE RECALLS THAT FIEDL CASTRO HAD FORMALLY PROMISED SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER OLAF PALME TO WITHDRAW UNCLASSIFIED

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THE CUBAN TROOPS FROM ANGOLA. THIS EVACUATION, ACCORDING TO THE

CUBAN PREMIER, SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT GRADUALLY. IT IS REPORTED THAT CUBAN PILOTS MAY HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN, BUT ACCORDING TO AN FNLA SOURCE, ONE OF THE TWO FACTIONS DEFEATED BY THE PRESENT MPLA GOVERNMENT, FIGHTING HAS RECOMMENCED IN THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONY. TWO TOWNS WERE TAKEN BY FNLA FORCES AND 41 CUBANS WERE KILLED DURING THE STRUGGLE AND A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT TAKEN. HAS PRESIDENT NETO COME TO ASK FIDEL CASTRO FOR INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE?

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Subject: MEDIA REACTION REPORT THE FOLLOWING APPEARED IN A REGULAR COLUMN/EDITORIAL ENTITLED "POINTS OF VIEW: LATIN

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